

July 17, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL WRIGHT:

Attention is called to House Resolutions 433 and 434, introduced by Congressman Merrow (R., N.H.) calling for the creation of a congressional committee to investigate the Department of State and the Foreign Service. H.R. 434 is a resolution allowing a fund not to exceed \$50,000 for the expenses of the study in H.R. 433.

H.R. 433 authorizes a congressional committee for the purpose of making a comprehensive study of all phases, both economic and political of the foreign policy of the United States. An investigation of the Department of State and the Foreign Service is to be made in order for the committee to be able to recommend necessary changes with respect to:

"(1) the formulation and execution of a realistic overall foreign policy.....;

"(2) improvements in the operation and administration of the Department of State and the Foreign Service of the United States;

"(3) methods for securing accurate and up-to-date information concerning world conditions; and

"(4) communication of such information to the people of the United States".

Attention is particularly called to number (3) above, which calls for a study and investigation of "methods for securing accurate and up-to-date information concerning world conditions" which will in all probability cut across the intelligence picture. In this connection, it is further noted that Section 4 of the Resolution authorizes the committee to require the attendance of witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents and to take such testimony as it deems necessary. It would appear that care should be exercised against the possible compromise of intelligence information and sources.

It is believed that there is little likelihood of this Resolution being reported out during the current session. It is recommended that the calendar be watched in case the Resolution should receive favorable action.

WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER

WLP:mgd